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TCS-1062-58
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14 April 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR : Mr. Bissell

SUBJECT : USAF Proposed Aquatone Peripheral Program
(Ref: AFOOP-OC-R, TS THO710-8, 7 April 1958)

1. [] and I have reviewed Gen. Sutterlin's memo (above reference) and offer the following comments:

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a. Re para 2a, we are in complete agreement.

b. Re para 2b, there is no doubt that each of the services, primarily USAF and Navy, by virtue of being the Air Arm of the Department of Defense, have authorities for conducting peripheral ELINT missions and for developing related equipment; however, I know of no central office which produces either a completely balanced ELINT requirement or a controlled, operational plan covering USAF, NAVY, ARMY, and CIA operations.

c. Re para 4a, concur.

d. Re para 4b, due to our greater height capability with resultant greater line of sight penetration, we could and should augment military ELINT missions on a coordinated basis, but only until such time as the FOG U-2's get in proper overseas positions and have their ELINT systems functioning and show ability to take on this function.

e. Re para 4c, fully concur.

f. Re para 4d, concur in turning over ELINT equipment to USAF, but not all U-2 aircraft. The U-2's may be needed for second team type of operations such as we are now engaged in. Exact numbers and operating methods can best be finalized at the time Aquatone and the U-2's become sterile as a USSR overflight tool.

g. Re para 4e, we agree to the principle of not compromising U-2's capability by continually flying it so close to the USSR or Satellite borders on such a heavy schedule that they get to know practically every facet of the aircraft. I believe we may want to run ELINT missions as we have in the past, i.e., whenever we have a reason for R & D purposes or to check ROB before we make a penetration on a primary mission.

J. A. GIBBS
Deputy Project Director

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2 - []
3 - JAU
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